

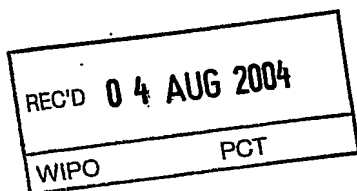


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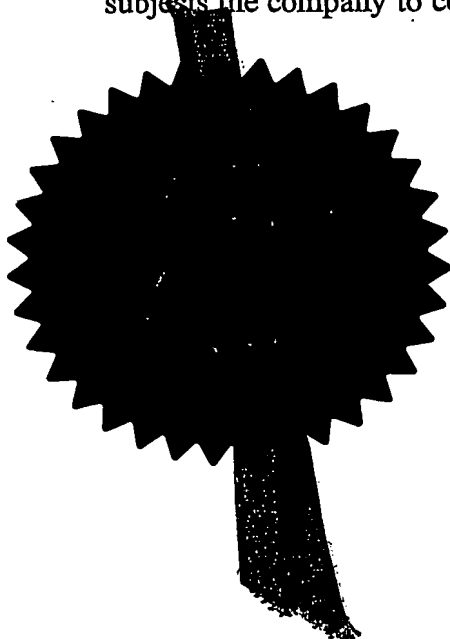
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Dated 2 June 2004



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2. Patent application number
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GROENEWOUDSEWEG 1
5621 BA EINDHOVEN
THE NETHERLANDS
07419294001

Patents ADP Number (if you know it)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the
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THE NETHERLANDS

741929400

4. Title of the invention

COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom
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Redhill
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08359655001

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Country

Priority Application number

Date of filing

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Translations of priority documents
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P. J. Mabey

Date

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Patents Form 1

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DESCRIPTION

COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

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Terminals in mobile communication systems usually have a maximum transmit power limit, which may be set by physical constraints or in response to an instruction received from a controller.

While a terminal is transmitting a first signal, it is sometimes necessary to transmit additional signals which would require the terminal's maximum transmit power limit to be exceeded. In such cases, a variety of approaches may be taken, including: reduce the transmit power of the first signal in order to allow sufficient power for the additional signal(s) to be transmitted without breaching the maximum power limit; switch off part or all of the first signal in order to allow the additional signal(s) to be transmitted.

In some systems, it is only possible to execute the reduction in transmit power of the first signal at particular time instants, such as a frame- or timeslot-boundary. These time instants may not correspond to the times at which the transmission of the additional signal(s) must commence. Consequently it may be necessary to execute the reduction in transmit power in advance of the transmission of the additional signal(s).

In such situations, the exact nature of the additional signal(s) may not yet be known at the time when the reduction in transmit power of the first signal has to be executed. Different types of additional signal may have different transmit power requirements.

According to the present invention, the transmit power of the first signal is reduced by an amount equal to the greatest power requirement of any of the set of possible additional signals which may be subsequently transmitted.

This avoids setting a requirement on the terminal to make an earlier decision about which type of additional signal is to be transmitted, or to make a

reduction in power of the first signal at some time other than the most convenient instant.

In one embodiment of the present invention, a UMTS mobile station
5 (MS) transmits some continuous uplink (UL) signals to a base station (BS).
The MS also receives some downlink (DL) packet data, typically using the
High-Speed Downlink Packet Access (HSDPA) feature of UMTS. The MS
must transmit a positive (ACK) or negative (NACK) acknowledgement for each
HSDPA packet received, depending for example on the outcome of a CRC
10 evaluation. The ACKs and NACKs are transmitted on a so-called High-Speed
Dedicated Physical Control Channel (HS-DPCCH), whose timeslots are not
aligned with the timeslots on the other uplink channels carrying the continuous
uplink signals.

If the transmission of an ACK or NACK in parallel with the continuous
15 uplink signals would require more transmit power than is available, the transmit
power of the other uplink channels is reduced at the timeslot boundary
immediately preceding the start of the ACK or NACK transmission. However,
in UMTS HSDPA, the transmit power for ACKs may be required to be different
from the transmit power for NACKs. Consequently, if the MS were to know by
20 how much to reduce the power of the continuous signals in time for the slot
boundary prior to the start of the ACK or NACK transmission, it would need to
complete the CRC evaluation process more quickly than the time allowed by
the timing of the ACK/NACK transmission.

According to the present invention, the MS reduces the transmit power
25 at the timeslot prior to the start of the ACK/NACK transmission by an amount
corresponding to whichever of ACK or NACK has the highest power
requirement. In this way, the UE can ensure that enough transmit power is
available for the ACK/NACK transmission regardless of the final outcome of
the CRC evaluation process.

30 The principle is illustrated in Figure 1. In Figure 1 the MS is initially
transmitting at its maximum allowed power, $P_{\max} = P_{C1} + P_{D1}$.
Suppose that P_A is defined to be $2P_C$ and P_N is defined to be equal to P_C .

Then the powers of the DPDCH and DPCCH must be reduced such that

$$P_{C2} + P_{D2} + P_A = P_{max}$$

$$P_{C2} + P_{D2} + 2P_{C2} = P_{max}$$

The power ratio between the control and data channels is maintained, such

5 that $P_{D2}/P_{C2} = P_{D1}/P_{C1}$.

$$\text{Thus } P_{C2} = \frac{P_{C1} + P_{D1} - P_A}{1 + P_{D1}/P_{C1}} \quad \text{or} \quad P_{C2} = \frac{P_{C1} + P_{D1}}{3 + P_{D1}/P_{C1}}$$

$$\text{and } P_{D2} = \frac{P_{C1} + P_{D1} - P_A}{1 + P_{C1}/P_{D1}} \quad \text{or} \quad P_{D2} = \frac{P_{C1} + P_{D1}}{1 + 3P_{C1}/P_{D1}}$$

10 In another embodiment, the additional signals may carry information other than ACK/NACK signalling; for example, they may carry packet data (as in the proposed enhanced uplink in UMTS) or other signalling information.

ABSTRACT**COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**

5 In UMTS (Universal Mobile Telecommunications System) HSDPA (High-Speed Downlink Packet Access), it is necessary to scale down the uplink transmission power at certain times in order to allow sufficient power for essential uplink ACK/NACK signalling. This scaling may have to be carried out before it is known whether the transmission will be an ACK or a NACK, and consequently
10 the power requirement is unknown. According to the present invention, the power scaling is carried out based on the power required for whichever of ACK or NACK requires the most power. This avoids reducing the amount of time available to the UE for evaluating the CRC used to determine whether ACK or NACK should be transmitted. This invention may also be applicable to power
15 scaling prior to transmission of other signals whose exact power requirement is unknown at the time when the power scaling is applied.

(Figure 1)

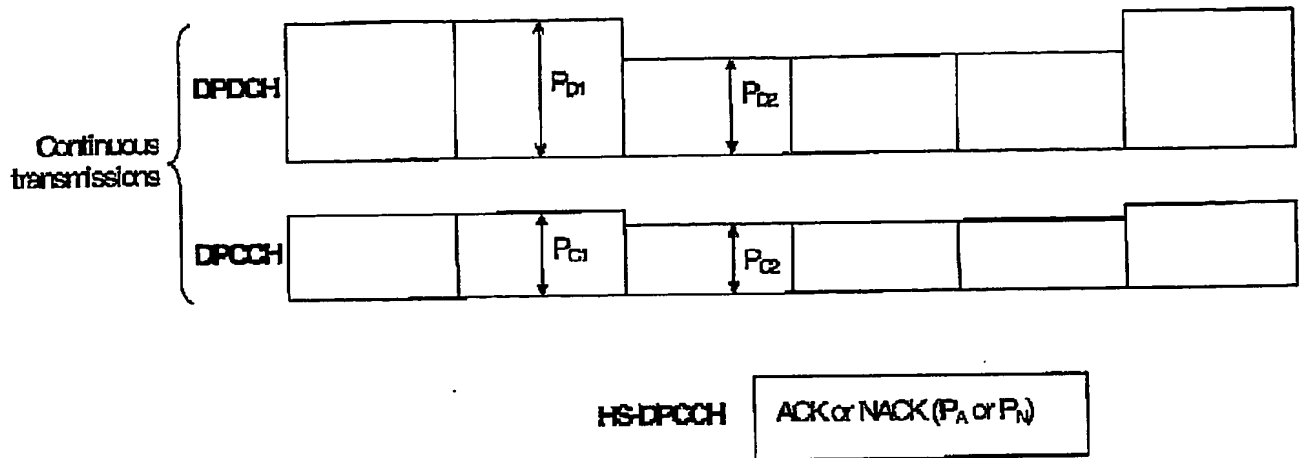


Fig. 1